

NEWS RELEASE

**FROM: Catherine L. Hanaway
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HAYTI, MISSOURI MAN SENTENCED TO 200 MONTHS FOR UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM

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A Hayti, Missouri man was sentenced today on charges of unlawful possession of a firearm, announced United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway.

GEORGE MOONEY, age 37, was sentenced to 200 months on one felony count of Felon in Possession of a Firearm. He appeared before United States District Judge Charles A. Shaw.

On July 3, 2005, Mooney was living at the home of another person in Hayti, Missouri. While at that home, Mooney took a pistol belonging to the owner of that home, without the owner's consent. Mooney then traded the pistol for a small quantity of crack cocaine. That pistol was later recovered, and the home owner identified it as her pistol. Mooney made

statements to the police officers admitting possessing the pistol. Due to his previous felony convictions, Mooney is prohibited from possessing a firearm.

Hanaway praised the Hayti Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for their work on the case. Assistant United States Attorney Keith D. Sorrell handled the prosecution for the Government.